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BANQUET

IN HONOR OF THE

UNITED STATES PEACE COMMISSIONERS

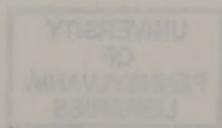
AT

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

FEBRUARY 4, 1899

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GENTLEMEN: The cares and obligations of the Government is the explanation why the President of the United States is not with us this evening.

We welcome one of our guests as the personal representative of the President, as the representative of the Cabinet, and thrice welcome he is as a member of our own household.

The President is with us by proxy, as evidenced by the following letter I received from him this morning, and which I am quite sure you will be as pleased to hear as I am to read it:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON,

February 2, 1899.

JOSEPH G. DARLINGTON, ESQ.,

President Union League, Philadelphia, Pa.

My Dear Sir: I find that it will not be possible for me to be present at the dinner in honor of the Peace Commissioners, to be held on the evening of February 4 at The Union League, Philadelphia.

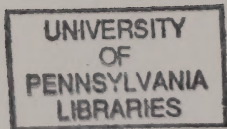
Too much honor cannot be paid to the eminent citizens who will be your guests next Saturday evening, for the able and statesmanlike negotiations conducted by them at Paris which resulted in a signing of a Treaty of Peace honorable to both countries.

As I have long enjoyed the personal friendship of all the Commissioners, and have been closely associated with them in public life, I have uncommon regret that I cannot join in the dinner given in their honor. To the guests assembled please convey my good wishes and belief that the great work that the Commissioners have achieved will redound to the good of the nation and of humanity.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signed]

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.



"Gentlemen, will you please rise and drink to the health of the President of the United States ; may he have the wisdom and the judgment to direct the affairs of this nation in the way of peace and prosperity, and may he have the physical strength to meet the requirements of his high office."

It is eminently proper that The Union League, an organization of national importance in public affairs, should not only be the first to respond to a call from the National Government, but also the first to recognize valuable services rendered our country ; therefore it is our duty, as well as our pleasure, at the earliest opportunity, to express our appreciation of the valuable and distinguished services of the United States Peace Commissioners, who honor us by their presence this evening.

Recently we had the honor and the pleasure of entertaining the distinguished officers of the Army and Navy, whose brilliant and conspicuous deeds on land and sea not only won the gratitude and admiration of the American people, but also were a revelation to the countries of Europe.

The soldier and sailor have a peculiar attraction for the mass of people, which the civilian can never hope to attain, no matter how distinguished he may be.

While we do not desire, in the slightest degree, to deprive any officer of either the Army or Navy, nor the soldiers and sailors, of one particle of the credit or honor which belongs to them, we should not lose sight of the fact that before a soldier moves, or a vessel sails, most serious work has to be done, involving vital questions—done in an office far distant from where the active service is to be rendered. The declaration of war, the calling upon the Army and Navy to enforce the determination of the Government, follows, does not precede, the action of the Statesman. Upon the Statesman rests the grave responsibility of deciding issues, involving, possibly, peace or war, prosperity or disaster. He must calmly, fearlessly, conscientiously consider all the conditions. His judgment cannot be circumscribed, but far reaching, weighing every possible phase of the proposition, and then render a decision which indicates a policy and mode of procedure. If these most important preliminaries have been wisely and judiciously considered, before the determination of the Government is expressed, by its Army and Navy, the result will be the honor and glory of our people, and the advancement of our fellow man in the line of civilization.

As I have remarked, we have been honored by

the presence of the heroes of the late war, representing both the Army and the Navy; to-night we are honored by the presence of gentlemen who rendered services no less valuable to our country—services the effect of which will live long after We who are here to-night have passed away,—a service which we confidently believe will yield blessings, happiness, and prosperity, not only to ourselves as a nation, but also to a distant and foreign people.

I know of no calling or profession that requires a higher order of intellect, a calmer or clearer judgment, a more acute appreciation of responsibility, a more perfect self-control, than that of a Statesman; for, upon his decision, his action, his guidance, depend issues of vital importance to the nation and the world at large.

When in Paris, last summer, it was my good fortune to meet a former Assistant Secretary of State of the United States. The existing condition of affairs between the United States and Spain was the principal topic of conversation. One of the gentlemen present at the time abruptly asked who was the greatest product of the year, to which the former official instantly replied, "William R. Day," and continued: "When I was connected with the State Department, I had immediate supervision of

the strained condition of affairs existing between the United States and Spain, and at that time felt assured that war must ultimately occur. With this experience and knowledge, I have carefully and with the deepest interest followed every movement of the State Department, and I candidly confess I cannot detect a single error on the part of Judge Day; he has demonstrated the very highest order of Statesmanship, and I repeat that, in my judgment, I cannot discover that he has made a single error." Such praise, coming from such a source, was certainly a very high tribute to the former Secretary of State.

Not only is the President to be congratulated upon having such an adviser at the head of the State Department, but also is he to be congratulated upon the selection of those gentlemen who were sent abroad to arrange a Treaty of Peace between the United States and Spain. In no spirit of bravado, or rejoicing over a fallen foe, did our Peace Commissioners meet the representatives of Spain, but as gentlemen, thoroughly impressed with the justice of their position, they courteously, yet firmly, insisted upon such a settlement as the United States was entitled to, demanding no more, consenting to no less.

It is not my province, nor the province of this evening's function, to discuss the question of expansion or non-expansion; we are not here for that purpose—that is a question on which men may honestly differ. But there is no question, nor can there possibly be any question, as to the able, dignified, statesmanlike manner in which Judge Day and his colleagues of the Peace Commission performed the high and important duties assigned them by the President of the United States; and therefore it is with peculiar pleasure that we welcome these distinguished gentlemen to our house this evening, and assure them that we recognize and appreciate the great service they have rendered the American nation. By their courteous and dignified course, they have impressed upon all Europe the fact: not only have we men who can successfully fight ships, and men who can lead armies to victory, but also we have men with the ability to adjust affairs of state in accordance with the rules and regulations of diplomacy, as recognized by the civilized nations of the world.

THE
BIRTHDAY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

FEBRUARY 18, 1899

Gentlemen : As we sit in this comfortable room, surrounded by flowers indicative of spring, it is difficult for us to appreciate the violence of the storm that is raging without, and which is covering almost the entire country. The storm is the explanation of the absence of so many of our guests this evening. It is also the explanation of why two of the gentlemen whom we had anticipated listening to with so much pleasure are not with us. Mr. Washington is somewhere between New York and Philadelphia ; Senator Beveridge, from whom we have had several telegrams during the day, is at Coatesville. The Senator is evidently as much distressed at not being with us as we are disappointed by his absence. I have received two telegrams from him since we have been at dinner,—both from Coatesville. The last indicates that he is of a sanguine temperament. His first telegram reads : “Our train was due at Philadelphia at five o’clock this morning. Now at Coatesville. Probably will arrive by nine o’clock this evening.” His second telegram reads : “Still at Coatesville. No information as to progress. Railroad people can inform you when we will arrive.” Unfortunately, our friends at the Broad Street station say they cannot give us any information on the subject. Therefore we will not have

the pleasure this evening of hearing from Senator Beveridge or Mr. Washington.

Gentlemen, ninety years ago there was born of the humblest parentage, amid poverty and wretchedness, a boy who was destined to become one of the greatest and most remarkable characters in history. We have assembled to-night for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to his memory, and gratefully to acknowledge the greatness of his life,—the purity of his life,—such was the man, Abraham Lincoln. The casual reader will fail to discover any indication of greatness, but the careful reader of history will have no difficulty in detecting in his boyhood and early manhood the elements of a noble character which rapidly developed to completeness. If I should be asked to name what I consider were the greatest characteristics of Mr. Lincoln, I should unhesitatingly answer, absolute, innate honesty;—honesty in thought, honesty of purpose, honesty in deed; entire simplicity; a true man, true to himself, true to all men; a man of the people; a plain man, and so the plain people understood him, believed in him, and trusted him. And, gentlemen, let us not lose sight of the fact, that it is the plain people who rule the universe, for they are honest, and they recognize an honest man when they come in contact

with him. Neither can deceive the other. *The brains and the labor of the plain people of our land constitute the glory of the nation.* In my judgment no higher encomium can be paid to the memory of Mr. Lincoln than to say that he was a plain man, and was believed in and trusted by the plain people. Together, under the guidance of the Almighty, they preserved the honor of the nation, and restored peace throughout its borders.

It is well that, in our busy and hurried lives, we should pause to recall the characters and deeds of the great men of our country who now rest from their labors; and it is peculiarly fitting that The Union League should assemble out of respect to the memory of this great man; for, gentlemen, The Union League was organized in the early part of Mr. Lincoln's administration, when the affairs of the country were in the most discouraging and disheartening condition, when it was a very grave question whether the Union would or could be preserved. To uphold the President, to aid the Government, was the object of the founders of The Union League.

Among all the glorious characters in our country's history Abraham Lincoln stands forth as a sunburst, casting its brilliancy over mankind through-

out the world. We thank God for sending such a man to earth. The effect and influence of his life will endure throughout the ages, and as the years roll by the world will understand the man better, and be more and more convinced and impressed with his greatness.

TESTIMONIAL

TO

CAPT. CHARLES E. CLARK, U.S.N.

Late Commander of the Battleship "Oregon"

AT

THE UNION LEAGUE, PHILADELPHIA

APRIL 5, 1899

Gentlemen: I deem it an honor to have been invited by your Committee, and it was a great pleasure for me to accept their invitation, to preside at this banquet and in your name extend, as I do now, a cordial and sincere greeting to our distinguished guest. There surely can be nothing more grateful to a man who has faithfully performed a duty than to realize that his work is recognized and appreciated by his countrymen. Captain Clark is one of the distinguished officers of our navy, whose name, with the names of his illustrious colleagues, has been honorably and indelibly written upon the page of history.

As we pause to consider the events of the past few months, it is difficult for us to realize the occurrences which have taken place in less than a year. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, in a contribution to one of the monthly magazines, calls attention to the fact that "three hundred and fifty years ago the empire of Charles V. circled the globe, and was the greatest military and political power among civilized men. Of that mighty fabric the year 1898 has witnessed the unlamented end." On the 19th of April, 1898, the Congress of the United States passed two resolutions, prefaced by a preamble; the first declared that the people of the island of Cuba are,

and of right ought to be, free and independent; the second demanded, in the name of the United States, that the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority in the island of Cuba. The passage of those resolutions was quickly followed by a declaration of war on April 21st. On the same day the Navy Department telegraphed to the commander of our squadron at Key West to establish the blockade of the Cuban coast, and by daylight of the 22d the ships had reached their destination. On April 24th the Secretary of the Navy cabled to the commander of our Asiatic squadron, at Hong Kong, to proceed at once to the Philippine Islands and capture or destroy the Spanish fleet. That order went to a man who was in every way prepared to receive it, and he lost no time in its execution. Commodore Dewey sailed from Hong Kong on April 27th, and on May 1st the Spanish fleet was destroyed. So rapidly did events follow each other, Spain suffering one defeat after another, that on the 13th day of August her disasters culminated with the capitulation of Manila. On the same day a protocol was signed; on December 10th the Treaty of Paris was concluded; on February 6th the treaty was ratified by the Senate of the United States; on February 10th it was signed by the President of the United

States, and on March 17th by the Queen Regent of Spain—ten months and twenty-six days from the day on which war was declared between the two countries. I venture to assert that the history of the world does not contain, within the same period of time, such a record of international events.

Many vital questions involved by the war remain to be solved. We are confronted with problems which the founders of this government never contemplated. A radical change has taken place in our national affairs, which demands and will require the highest order of statesmanship and the calm and mature consideration of the American people. If these questions are met as they should be, in the spirit of true patriotism, eliminating all personal or political ambition and all selfish motives for personal aggrandizement, the result will be the honor and the glory of our country, the welfare and prosperity of our people, the elevation of humanity and the introduction of civilization among a people for whose good government before the world we are responsible.

Entering upon a war having for its object the release of the inhabitants of the island of Cuba from an oppression and a tyranny which had become unbearable and an affront to civilization and Christian-

ity, events occurred with such rapidity that it was impossible to confine the object and intention of the government to the conditions existing within the territory originally demanding our interference and protection. It is reasonable to expect disturbances in our new possessions; it would be unreasonable not to expect them, for we are dealing with a people unaccustomed to the laws governing civilized communities. We fully realize the grave responsibilities we have undertaken; but we have no apprehension whatever as to the ultimate result, which will be the maintenance of the honor and integrity of our nation and the development of a people who until now have never realized the capabilities and the possibilities of complete manhood. I again quote Senator Lodge: "The final expulsion of Spain from the Americas and from the Philippines is the fit conclusion of the long strife between the people who stood for civil and religious freedom and those who stood for bigotry and tyranny as hideous in their action as any which have ever cursed humanity."

Captain Clark, figuratively speaking, retired one night as an honored officer of our illustrious navy, and awakened in the morning to find himself a hero. Called upon suddenly to meet an emer-

gency, he met the requirements of his new assignment by directing the course of the battleship Oregon over 14,000 miles within seventy-two days, and reached his destination in condition for immediate service—demonstrating the capability and the invincibility of the American sailor.

It has been said that republics are ungrateful. If this has been true it should be true no longer. We cannot be too lavish in giving *expression* of our appreciation to those who have rendered distinguished service to our country. Gentlemen, please note, I say expressed appreciation. It is not enough that we should say, "Yes, he did a grand thing, he is a clever man, he is a great officer;" let us tell him so, give him some outward expression of our appreciation and make him feel we recognize and value the service, which adds to the glory of our country in which we each individually participate. We are all the better for such acknowledgments. We cannot come to a gathering like this without cementing more strongly the tie of good fellowship which brightens the lives of men. In the welcome we extend to Captain Clark this evening we want him to understand and to feel that it is thoroughly genuine and sincere; it is not only in recognition of the distinguished services he has rendered our

country, but also in recognition of his personal worth as a true man and as a gentleman. As such we welcome him. He will always find within the portals of The Union League a greeting that will assure him that his presence is desired by each and every one of us.

FOUNDERS' DAY BANQUET

NOVEMBER 25, 1899

IN MEMORIAM

Gentlemen: When, in the providence of God, the earthly career of a good man is closed, his death is a loss to the community in which he has lived. When he is a public man holding high position under his government and has administered the affairs of his office with marked fidelity and distinguished ability, his death is a calamity. Such a man was Garret A. Hobart, late Vice-President of the United States. The office to which Mr. Hobart was elected, although second only in rank to that of the President, was not an office that brought him conspicuously before the public; yet he administered its affairs with such distinguished ability, intelligence, impartiality, and uniform courtesy, that he commanded and received the respect of every member of the United States Senate and the commendation of the country at large.

Mr. Hobart was a man of conservative character and positive convictions. As such, he was an able and a wise adviser. His loyalty to his chief was impressive. In his death the President has lost a true friend and a valuable counsellor. Mr. Hobart was possessed of that rare quality—good common

sense. He was a man of affairs ; he understood men and measures ; he kept himself thoroughly in touch with every movement in political, financial, and commercial life. Possessed of a charming personality, always courteous, it was a delight to meet him. Called to many positions of trust, he never forgot the high responsibilities which they imposed upon him. His life was a brilliant example of what the life of every public man should be.

Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink in silence to the memory of Garret A. Hobart.

Gentlemen : The conservative character of The Union League is clearly demonstrated by the fact that it has waited for thirty-seven years to inaugurate an annual banquet which, it is hoped, will prove a distinct feature in each succeeding year, not only as affording an opportunity for a social meeting of this organization, but for a far higher purpose—to recall in grateful remembrance the memories of those good and true men who, being inspired with the deepest loyalty to their country, were actuated to form an association which resulted in the organization of The Union League of Philadelphia. This banquet is intended to accomplish another purpose—of pre-

senting to you, gentlemen of acknowledged and recognized reputation in national affairs, statesmen of wide experience, who will come here and speak to us upon matters of national importance, and whose utterances may, through the medium of this great organization, go out to the country at large.

It is hardly possible for us to appreciate the condition of affairs that existed in the dark and gloomy days of November, 1862. The national horizon was clouded by disaster and defeat to the armies engaged in the defence of the Union, and the future gave promise only of further disaster, with grave possibility of the complete overthrow of the national government. In consequence of its geographical position there were many people in Philadelphia who strongly sympathized with those who were engaged in doing all in their power to destroy the greatest republic that the Almighty ever permitted man to create. Some of the most prominent men in the city were connected with the South by birth or by marriage, and many more held large business interests in the Southern States. These gentlemen were prominent in the business and social life of the city, and accustomed to associate only with gentlemen of equal standing. From 1798 a number of gentlemen had been accustomed to meet socially,

on Saturday evening of each week during the winter months, at the residence of Dr. Casper Wistar. After his death, in 1818, the gentlemen who had been so fortunate as to have attended the receptions at Dr. Wistar's, formed an association, and out of respect to the memory of their late friend and host adopted the name of "The Wistar Party." This association was composed of gentlemen of prominence in the professional, financial, and mercantile life of our city, and of high social standing. They met together to converse upon subjects of mutual interest, freely and with that entire confidence with which it was natural for such gentlemen to meet and converse. Suddenly they realized that they were a divided household; life-long friends found themselves opposed to each other upon a question regarding which there could be no two opinions and continue friends. In the words of Stephen A. Douglas, "There could be but two sides to the controversy: every man must be on the side of the United States or against the United States. There could be no neutrals, there could be none but patriots and traitors." So intense was the feeling among the Wistar Party regarding national affairs that bitter discussions were constantly occurring; it was impossible to continue an association

under such conditions, and therefore those holding views of loyalty to the government withdrew in order that they might discuss freely, and without feeling that they were conversing with men who possibly at the time were plotting and scheming for the overthrow of the Union. In forming the new association they required absolute loyalty to the government a prerequisite to membership. They fully realized that in doing this they were closing their doors to life-long friends and daily companions ; yet unhesitatingly they arrayed themselves on the side of the national government, and stood ready to pledge everything they held dear, even to life itself, that the Union might be preserved. Among the first gentlemen to take part in this movement were Benjamin Gerhard, Morton McMichael, George H. Boker, Judge Hare, and Charles Gibbons. A meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Gerhard about November 15, 1862, at which only a few gentlemen were present. This meeting was followed in a few days by a meeting at the residence of Mr. Boker, 1720 Walnut Street, at which about twenty-four gentlemen were present. At the first meeting no distinctive name was adopted. At the second meeting they organized the Union Club, with a membership limited to fifty,

and making unqualified loyalty to the government and unswerving support of its measures for the suppression of the rebellion a condition of membership. It was decided to hold weekly meetings on Saturday night at the house of a member, which was the same plan as the original Wistar Party. They also adopted a card of invitation similar to that of the Wistar Party, the only difference being that the portrait of Dr. Wistar was replaced by the national flag. After a few weeks, in order that they might enlarge their field of usefulness and exert all their power in supporting the government, the name "The Union Club" was changed to The Union League of Philadelphia, which was organized on the 27th day of December, 1862.

It is not my intention to go further into the early history of The Union League; the gentleman who will respond to the toast that I will give you in a moment, is far abler to do this than I am, and much more to your pleasure. The record of The Union League in the closing days of 1862 and in the years 1863, 1864, and 1865, forms a page of the national history. From that date to this day has this great organization ever stood ready to lend its power and its influence to uphold the national government and maintain the national honor. It has always repre-

sented, *and represents to-day*, everything that is true and great in our national life ; it has always been, *and is to-day*, the loyal advocate of every movement that adds to the glory and renown of our country.

Gentlemen, the toast I will now give will be responded to by a gentleman who needs no introduction. He is one whom you have honored with every position within your gift, and he has *never failed you*. He has met every trust imposed upon him ; he has always proved a loyal member of this great organization, having a high conception of its possibilities and what it was intended to represent. When I tell you that Mr. Silas W. Pettit will respond to the toast, I am sure you will recognize the fitness of the selection. I now give you The Union League of Philadelphia, the first of the Union Leagues in the United States : May it always stand as the embodiment of absolute and unswerving loyalty to our country ; The advocate of everything that is good in our national life ; The unyielding opponent of any and every movement that would tend to discredit our national honor. May it stand as the highest type of a *social* club, inasmuch as it never has tolerated, nor ever will tolerate, an act unbecoming a gentleman ; as the highest type of a *political* club, having no *personal ambition* to serve,

but always ready to lend *its voice, its power, and its influence* to *elevate and purify* our *national politics*. May its power and influence for *good* be recognized and felt throughout our country.

EXPANSION OF TERRITORY—EXPANSION OF TRADE

AN ADDRESS

BY

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE

U. S. Senator from Maine

BEFORE

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

MARCH 17, 1900

Gentlemen: If we will consider for a moment the constant demands that are made upon a Senator who faithfully, conscientiously and intelligently meets the duties of his high office, and add to these demands the responsibilities and the obligations of the Presiding Officer of the United States Senate, we can better appreciate the compliment that is paid The Union League to-night by the presence of our distinguished guest. I trust Senator Frye will pardon me for referring to a remark that he made when I had the pleasure of calling upon him in Washington and invited him to address The Union League. After learning the object of my visit, he replied, "I have declined at least one hundred invitations to speak, for the reason that I have not the time to give to the preparation that would be necessary. But," continued the Senator, "I have a speech in my mind that I would like to deliver to the American people, and there is no place in the United States where I should prefer to deliver it than in The Union League of Philadelphia." (Applause.) As an evidence of the sincerity of that graceful compliment, he is with us this evening; and I may add that this is the first occasion that he has spoken during the present session of Congress. Senator Frye will speak to

us upon the "Expansion of Territory—Expansion of Trade," introducing his subject by a reference to the Treaty of Paris of 1898, which he, as a member of the United States Peace Commission, was largely instrumental in formulating. I have very great pleasure in introducing to you the Honorable William P. Frye, United States Senator from the State of Maine and President *pro tem.* of the United States Senate.

ADDRESS

BY

HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE

U. S. Senator from Massachusetts

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

THE UNION LEAGUE

AT

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, PHILADELPHIA

OCTOBER 1, 1900

Ladies and Gentlemen : One of the most encouraging signs of the times is the deeper interest which the women of our land are taking in public and national affairs. (Applause.) I cannot confess to be a very ardent admirer of that new type of womanhood styled "the modern woman," but I am a very enthusiastic admirer of the woman who makes herself familiar with affairs which affect the welfare, the prosperity, and the honor of her country. (Applause.) Possessed of an inherent power which she scarcely realizes, and which we fail to fully appreciate, if she will make herself familiar with public and national affairs, so that she can converse on them intelligently and with understanding, she wields a power and an influence which creates public thought and indirectly suggests wise legislation. Her presence at a meeting of this character is elevating, inspiring and in every way to be desired. In the name of The Union League of Philadelphia, I most heartily welcome the women who honor us by their presence this evening. (Applause.)

In pursuance of a duty and an obligation, not only to the people of Philadelphia, but to the great Republican party, with which we are associated, this meeting has been called for the purpose

of presenting for your consideration matters of national importance, regarding which there is much ignorance, much misunderstanding, but withal a very earnest desire for information. Among all the brilliant and gifted men who to-day are recognized as statesmen of the highest order, I know of no man more familiar with every event of recent occurrence, and in every way qualified to speak to us, than is the distinguished Senator from Massachusetts. (Cheers.) Personally familiar with every event of our national history in recent years, a gentleman of profound learning, a man of careful and close observation, an intelligent, wise, and patriotic statesman, whose voice is always heard in the highest legislative hall of the land in advocacy of every measure which tends to maintain the national honor and secure the prosperity of every section of our country, and possessing the power and ability to impart intelligently and clearly the knowledge which he possesses, it is with very great pleasure that I present to you the Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge.

FOUNDERS' DAY BANQUET

NOVEMBER 24, 1900

Gentlemen of The Union League: If it were possible for those good and true men, whose memory this function is intended to recall, to look upon this scene, I am sure their hearts would rejoice as they realized that upon the foundation laid by them thirty-eight years ago there had arisen this great organization; and as they realized that throughout this long period there had never been the slightest deviation from the principle they established as the first qualification of membership, "absolute and unswerving loyalty to the National Government," again would they rejoice (applause); and as they saw, sitting in our midst, as the guest of honor, the distinguished President of the United States, surely their hearts would be glad as they realized that The Union League of 1900 had been engaged in the same loyal service as The Union League of 1862.

The Union League of Philadelphia was founded and organized for the specific purpose of "fostering and promoting the love of Republican Government," and aiding in the preservation of the Union of the United States, and to this end assisting the President in defending this Union against the assaults of men who were doing everything in their power to destroy the greatest Republic that the

Almighty ever permitted man to create. I venture to assert that when the heart of the immortal Lincoln was bowed with grief at the bare possibility that his efforts to preserve this Union of States should prove a failure, he found some degree of encouragement in the fact that there existed in the loyal city of Philadelphia an organization of men who stood ready to give him every support within their power, and, if need be, yield their lives that this Union might be preserved. (Applause.)

The work of The Union League has always been national in its character ; it has always stood for everything that is good in our national life ; it has always been ready at a moment's notice to lend its voice and its power in support of the National Government, and in upholding the National Honor, and it has never rendered more loyal, more faithful, more patriotic, nor more effective service, than during the past four years. (Applause.)

The honor conferred upon us to-night by the presence of the President of the United States, the members of his official family, the Vice-President-elect, two of the most distinguished Senators of the United States, and four of the original founders, is the greatest and most distinguished recognition we have ever received.

To have the privilege of entertaining one of the *greatest Presidents who ever guided the affairs of this nation* is indeed an honor.

Called upon to meet conditions and determine problems that were never contemplated by the founders of our government, to decide vital questions affecting our affairs at home and our relations abroad, the decision of which involved on the one hand peace, prosperity, and national honor, and on the other hand misery, disaster, and national dishonor, demanded the highest order of statesmanship, patriotism, and prudence on the part of our chief magistrate.

How wisely, how patriotically, with what rare judgment, with what honesty of intention, with what conscientious regard for his high position, has President McKinley met each condition and decided each question! (Applause.) Actuated by the sole desire to secure and advance the welfare of this great nation, President McKinley has given the country one of the ablest, most patriotic, and thoroughly American administrations with which we have ever been blessed. (Applause.)

AT HOME, prosperity, peace, confidence, and quietness reign throughout the land.

ABROAD, the voice of the United States is heard

and listened to in the consideration and determination of every international question in which the civilized nations of the world are interested. We have reached that period in our history when there is *no closed door to America*. (Applause.)

The nations of the earth recognize this, and accord to the United States, as her right, the position of one of the great Powers of the world. We say this in no boastful spirit, but as true, loyal Americans who love our country, with complete faith in her great power for good throughout the world. (Applause.)

The national honor has been maintained ; every promise regarding our national affairs has been and will be faithfully observed ; the honor of our flag remains, as it always has been and as it always will be, the symbol of power and righteousness, commanding and demanding the respect of all men throughout the world.

Wherever our flag floats to-day, THERE WILL IT REMAIN as the representative of a nation of honorable men, a Christian nation, a nation that welcomes the oppressed and throws around her people the mantle of encouragement and protection. (Great applause.)

There have been times during the past two

years when the responsibilities resting upon the President were almost too great for mortal man to bear. Vital questions to which he alone could give the decisive answer have been determined, and determined wisely, and to the honor and glory of the United States of America.

It has been fortunate for the American people that William McKinley has been their President during the past four years, and we are even more fortunate in the fact that, by the grace of God, he will be our President for the next four years. (Applause.)

The President's heart must have been gladdened beyond expression when he heard on the seventh of November the voice of the nation, in the full majesty of her power, commending his work and endorsing his administration by his re-election as President of this great Republic.

The American people have endorsed and approved the administration of President McKinley. The voice of this great nation has been heard throughout the world, and the world will take heed thereof. (Applause.)

When I called upon the President in July last, to invite him to be our guest this evening, he remarked, "But suppose I shall not be elected,"

to which I replied, "That is not a supposable case, Mr. President." "Well," continued the President, "if I am elected, I shall be very glad to come ; if I am not elected, I shall be very glad to come, and therefore, whether elected or not elected, I shall be very glad to come."

Gentlemen, would it be possible to phrase a more gracious reply to an invitation, or one more sincere in its expression ?

Mr. President, each and every member of The Union League is deeply sensible of the great honor that you have conferred upon this historic association by your presence to-night, and in their name I pledge you our continued, united, and loyal support.

Gentlemen, will you please rise and drink to the health of "The President of the United States. May his administration of the affairs of this great nation prove a blessing to all the people, and redound to the glory of God."

Gentlemen, I have the great honor of presenting you to the President of the United States.

OUR PLACE AMONG THE NATIONS

AN ADDRESS

BY

HON. DAVID J. HILL, LL.D.

The First Assistant Secretary of State of the United States

BEFORE

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

JANUARY 26, 1901

Gentlemen : The position of the United States in the family of nations will not, in my judgment, be determined by a recourse to arms, or by an arrogant assumption of what we may conceive to be our right to demand, but rather will it be determined by our attitude before the nations of the world, and by wise and prudent legislation. So rapid and radical has been the change in our national affairs during the past three years that our foreign relations demand, and will require, the most serious consideration, not only upon the part of the legislative and executive departments of our government, but upon the part of all the people of our country. Upon Congress rests the responsibility of enacting the laws ; upon the President rests the responsibility to see that the laws are faithfully observed, and upon us, who are citizens of this great Republic, rests the grave responsibility and duty to use our influence to secure wise, prudent, and equitable legislation. The first step to this end is to secure the election to our legislative halls of men of unquestioned probity, whose ability and honesty of purpose is recognized by all the people of the land. The near future must and will determine the place of the United States among the great powers of the world. So mar-

velous has been the development of this nation during the past century, and more especially during the past twenty-five years, that the United States has become one of the great powers of the world, whose voice will be heard, and must be listened to, in the consideration and settlement of every international question. We are great enough to correct an error if one has been made; we are strong enough to insist upon our rights throughout the world. Gentlemen, let us be sure of the righteousness of our position, and there will be no question as to our position in the family of nations.

The subject which our distinguished guest has selected for his address this evening is one of the most important before the country to-day. Holding as he does one of the highest positions in our government, which brings before his official notice every change and movement in our foreign relations, Dr. Hill is peculiarly qualified to speak to us upon so important a question. I have very great pleasure in presenting to you the Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, the Honorable David J. Hill.

ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

The President of the United States was shot by an assassin in the Temple of Music, at the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, on the afternoon of Friday, September 6, 1901. He lingered for a week between life and death, and expired at 2.15 A. M., Saturday, September 14th. The Union League held a very largely attended memorial meeting on the evening of Friday, September 20th.

ADDRESS BY JOSEPH G. DARLINGTON

During the entire history of The Union League of Philadelphia it has never been called together for a sadder purpose than that for which this meeting is convened. There are times and occasions when it is impossible for a man to express in words the thoughts which are passing through his mind.

I dare not trust myself to speak extemporaneously, and therefore ask your indulgence and permission to refer to a few notes that I have prepared, which but feebly express the thoughts that are crowding upon my mind at this moment.

As a bolt from a clear sky came the message, "The President has been shot."

The suddenness of the announcement dazed the minds of all people, and as men looked into the eyes of each other, they refused to believe it was so. When the awful truth was forced upon us, an involuntary exclamation came forth: Is it possible that the Almighty God would permit such a horrible crime to be committed against such a man as William McKinley?

It is not for us to attempt to solve the mysteries of Divine Providence, and yet with all the fortitude of a Christian people it is impossible for us to comprehend why the act of the miserable wretch who struck the blow should have been permitted.

It would be an insult to mankind to call him a man—rather call him what he is, a dastard, a fiend incarnate, an emissary of the Evil One, a character so loathsome that all decent men turn from him with horror and disgust.

William McKinley, whose conscientious and distinguished administration of our national affairs won the confidence of his countrymen and the admiration of the world; a statesman of the very highest order, who so ably directed and guided the affairs of this great nation through perilous times, that the issue of each event added to the honor, the glory, and the prosperity of our country; a

thoughtful and a just man ; a gentle and a tender man. Could anything be more beautiful than at the moment he was stricken, his first thought was for his wife ? Turning to his Secretary, he said, "Cortelyou, be careful ; tell Mrs. McKinley gently."

A considerate man—ever mindful of the feelings of his fellow-men.

Could anything be more sublime than his words when he looked upon his murderer—"See that no one hurts him."

A brave man, brave in life, but far more brave in death.

A man whose life and deeds made him a leader among men ; who was looked upon by his countrymen with admiration as their President, and with respect and affection as a man.

A character without spot or blemish—such was the man whose earthly life was closed by the hands of an assassin. "It is God's way ; His will be done."

As William McKinley lived, so he died—with entire confidence in God's infinite love and mercy.

The announcement of the death of the President prostrated the nation, and our grief and sorrow have called forth the sympathy of the civilized world. Surely there was never a higher tribute

paid to the memory of a ruler than the world has witnessed during the past week.

It is hardly possible to describe the official funeral at Washington. Simplicity marked every detail. The loss was too great, the sorrow too sincere and too deep, to permit of pomp and display. As the funeral cortege moved from the White House to the Capitol, down the wide avenue, lined on each side by thousands of people, not a sound was heard to mar the solemnity of the occasion. The glorious sun was hidden by the clouds, and the gentle rain seemed to testify that the nation's grief was recognized in Heaven above. As the casket rested in the rotunda of the Capitol, surrounded by the sorrowing family, the President of the United States, the high officials of our Government, the representatives of foreign nations, and around and behind these groups as many of the plain people of the land as could be accommodated, completed a scene so impressive and sacred that it will never be effaced from the memory of those who looked upon it.

Every one realized that he was participating in the closing scene of one of the best, one of the ablest, and one of the purest men who ever presided over the destinies of this country.

The relations which existed between our beloved President and The Union League of Philadelphia were very close and very sincere.

He was an honorary member of our organization and a frequent guest. I cannot recall a single instance in which he declined an invitation to honor us by his presence.

The last occasion of his visit was Founders' Day, November 24, 1900, an event of historical importance for the reason that for the first time in the history of our country, since the national capital removed from Philadelphia to the District of Columbia, the President and his Cabinet assembled as a body away from Washington.

The Government of the United States removed from Washington to the banquet hall of The Union League of Philadelphia.

The scenes and events of that gathering will remain in the memories of those present as long as reason lasts.

Surrounded by the members of his Cabinet, the Vice-President-elect, distinguished Senators, and men of affairs, the President arose, and taking from his pocket a paper, proceeded to read that matchless address which stands forth as one of the ablest State papers ever prepared—profound in its

expressions, wise in its suggestions, patriotic and thoroughly American in its tone ; each and every word the honest and sincere expression of a man who fully realized the responsibility resting upon him as the President of the greatest Republic in the world. Each word breathed the concern and love of the speaker for his country's honor and the welfare of his countrymen.

The death of William McKinley is a national calamity ; surely we should not allow this awful tragedy to pass without its lesson.

The blow of the assassin is not the result of impulse, but the final act of one in whose mind has been sown seeds of discontent and distrust of his fellow-man.

The doctrines of anarchy and socialism are not only proclaimed from the platform, and taught in secret, but are suggested by a reckless press.

The power and resources of a journal that is conducted solely for personal gain, profit, and notoriety, are a **menace to society and an injury to the people.**

We have been afflicted in recent years by the existence of violent and reckless newspapers, whose thoughts and suggestions are further emphasized by the cartoon. **The newspaper that**

creates, by a written article or picture, a thought in the minds of its readers which tends towards disorder and discontent, and excites the passions against law and government and officials in high positions, is guilty of a crime very little, if any, less than the assassin who strikes at the life of the nation through an individual.

If the people of this land fully realize the danger from an unprincipled press, and can secure the means to put a stop to a condition of affairs that has become intolerable, William McKinley's death will not have been without a blessing.

FOUNDERS' DAY

NOVEMBER 23, 1901

Gentlemen of The Union League: At our last banquet I said, in my opening remarks, "It has been fortunate for the American people that William McKinley has been their President during the past four years, and we are even more fortunate in the fact, that by the grace of God he will be our President for the next four years." It was not to be—God willed it otherwise. We have cause for thanksgiving to-night in the fact that the mantle of his high office has fallen upon one who is peculiarly fitted and qualified to direct the affairs of our Nation in the ways of *peace, prosperity, and national honor*. Gentlemen, will you please fill your glasses and rise?

Theodore Roosevelt—by the grace of God, President of the United States. To him we pledge our loyal and enthusiastic support, with entire confidence and in the firm belief that he will administer the obligations of his high office with conspicuous ability, and an honest and earnest regard for all sections of the country, as a patriotic American, keeping always before him *his country's honor* and *his country's glory*.

I hesitate to utter a word that would cast a shadow over this banquet, and yet I am perfectly sure that your thoughts, like mine, are reverting to

the memorable gathering in this room last November. Only a year has passed, and passed so quickly that it is difficult for us to take heed of time. Short though the period has been, what great changes have taken place! Founders' Day banquet, 1900, will be remembered by those who were so fortunate to have been present as long as their memory lasts. Sitting at my right, surrounded by his official family, distinguished Senators and men of affairs, the President of the United States was our guest of honor, and by his presence honored the memory of the founders of this great organization. How vividly do we recall the scene as President McKinley arose and delivered his matchless address, every word revealing the thought, the desire, the ambition of a patriot and of a man who fully realized the responsibilities of his office as President of the greatest republic upon earth!

Referring to his recent re-election, the President said: "It has to me no personal phase. It is not the triumph of an individual, nor altogether of a party, but an emphatic declaration by the people of what they believe and would have maintained in government." After alluding to the various questions of national importance, the President con-

tinued: "Liberty has not lost but gained in strength. The structure of the fathers stands secure upon the foundations on which they raised it and is to-day, as it has been in years past and as it will be in the years to come, a 'government of the people, by the people, and for the people.' Be not disturbed; there is no danger from empire; there is no fear for the Republic."

To-night the voice of our beloved President is hushed on earth forever, but the blessed memory of his life remains, and will always remain, as an example of what the life of a public man should be.

Gentlemen, will you please rise and drink in silence to the memory of William McKinley—one of the best, one of the purest, one of the ablest, one of the most patriotic and thoroughly American Presidents who ever presided over and guided the affairs of this great nation.

It is well that we should observe the anniversary of our organization, not only for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the memory of the good and true men who were actuated by love of country and impelled by a high sense of duty as loyal citizens to organize The Union League of Philadelphia, but also that we may recall the condition of our national affairs in the early sixties, when loyalty to the National Government demanded a sacrifice of time, money and, here in Philadelphia, social position, and above all these, life itself.

The men who founded and organized The Union League did not do things in a weak and vacillating or half-hearted way ; they forsook everything and were prepared to give up everything, even to life, that the Union of the States might remain a united whole.

Gentlemen of The Union League to-day, such was the character of the men who founded and organized the great organization of which we are all so proud. The *reason* for the organization of The Union League was the necessities of the National Government, and the *purpose*, to render aid and assistance to the nation in the hour of peril, when the very life of the Government was assailed and threatened. From that time until now we have been recognized

as a national body, enjoying a national reputation and the respect of all men. This fact President McKinley recognized in the introduction of his address, as follows: "I shall do little more than make acknowledgment to this patriotic association for its unceasing loyalty to the Government of the United States from Founders' Day until now, and for the earnest support it has given the present Administration in the trying years through which it has passed, and to express my sincere thanks for the great honor this meeting and demonstration bring to me."

We have generally confined our sphere of usefulness to national affairs. It does not follow, however, that a condition might not arise when The Union League would decide to move in other directions. In an address, delivered in April, 1879, by one of the ablest and most brilliant men who ever presided over this organization—a gentleman whom you honored by electing him five times, in succession, your President, an honor never before or since conferred upon any other member—George H. Boker uttered these words: "The Union League has never concerned itself about minor politics. Local issues, nominations, and appointments to office have been left to the discretion of our members as

citizens. In such affairs we have not sought to impose an obligation upon our associates, either by the voice of a majority of our body or by that of the officers of the League. In grand politics, however—in those things which concern the Nation or the State—we have never hesitated to act, and I trust the day is far distant when The Union League will stand idly by to see political wrong hold a triumph either in the councils of the Nation or of the State. If the principles to defend which this organization was formed are to be assailed, I can promise that The Union League will be ready once more to plunge into action, to make its fearless voice heard from one end of the land to the other, and to make its influence felt in every department of politics." Thus spoke President Boker in 1879.

No words of mine can state more clearly the position of The Union League to-day. I earnestly hope that we may not be compelled to depart from a course which has proved to be eminently wise, but should the time come when it is the unanimous judgment of this body that we should extend our political influence and power, The Union League will speak in no uncertain sound and in a manner that will compel all men to listen and take heed.

I do not believe that The Union League will

remain silent if the life and usefulness of the great Republican party, and the principles which that party represents and stands for, be assailed and threatened by men who are consumed with personal ambition and a desire for personal gain. No, a thousand times no!

At a dinner given by the officers of The Union League a few years ago to the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, he asserted that "there was no political party big enough or strong enough to elect a man to public office against the combined opposition of The Union League of Philadelphia and The Union League of New York." I believe this to be true, and I also firmly believe that there is no political party big enough or strong enough in the State of Pennsylvania that can elect a man to public office against the *unanimous judgment* and the *united opposition* of The Union League of Philadelphia.

The Union League, as I have said, has always been a national organization, whose power and influence is always subject to the call of the National Government. We have no desire nor present intention of departing from this position, but, in the words of Mr. Boker, "I trust the day is far distant when The Union League of Philadelphia will stand idly by to see political wrong or folly hold a triumph

either in the councils of the Nation or of the State."

I have referred to the memorable gathering in this room last November. Another memorable function is added to our history this evening, accentuated by the presence of our distinguished guests. I wish it were possible that we could have a speech from each of the honorable gentlemen who are dining with us, but this would be unreasonable to expect, and I have given my promise to a number that they shall not be called upon, and I intend to observe my promise. I trust the assurance that we appreciate the pleasure they are giving us by their presence may in a measure compensate our friends for uniting with us in honoring the memory of those who founded The Union League of Philadelphia.

THE VISIT
OF
H. R. H. PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA
TO
THE UNION LEAGUE

MARCH 10, 1902

It is a happy coincidence that the last public function which our royal guest will be able to accept prior to his departure from the shores of America for his Fatherland, is tendered by the city of Philadelphia.

It is a further cause for congratulation upon our part, that the closing feature of the visit of His Royal Highness, Prince Henry of Prussia, to this, the most truly American city in the United States, is tendered by The Union League of Philadelphia.

We see in the visit of His Royal Highness to our country far more importance than could possibly attach to the launching of a pleasure yacht, even though that yacht is intended for the enjoyment of an emperor who rules over one of the greatest empires in the world.

Rather do we interpret the visit of His Royal Highness as an earnest and sincere desire on the part of His Imperial Majesty, the German Emperor, to bind more closely together the Great Empire of Germany and the Great Republic of the United States.

In this consists the great **significance** of the visit of His Royal Highness, Prince Henry of Prussia.

Every act or movement that tends to cement friendly relations between the Great Powers of the

World is a blessing to all mankind, and in this is the value of the visit of His Royal Highness, Prince Henry of Prussia.

We rejoice with all our countrymen that His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, has been pleased to express his friendship for the United States in the person of Your Royal Highness.

In the name of The Union League of Philadelphia, I extend you, sir, a most sincere and cordial welcome, with the regret that the time allowed for the visit of Your Royal Highness is all too short to permit us to express in a fitting manner our appreciation of the honor conferred upon this historic organization by the presence of Your Royal Highness.

Will Your Royal Highness permit me to present as a remembrance of your visit to The Union League of Philadelphia, a copy of the Chronicles of this Historical Body, the completion of which is accentuated by the fact that it is coincident with the presence of Your Royal Highness to-day.

I presume to suggest that in the hour of leisure, Your Royal Highness will find many facts of interest and much valuable information relating to a vital period in our national history.

With this book, I hand Your Royal Highness the emblems of National and Municipal power, as expressed by the Arms of the United States of America, by the Arms of the Empire of Germany, and by the Arms of the City of Philadelphia.

Accept, sir, from The Union League of Philadelphia, our sincere wish for a safe and delightful voyage to your Fatherland.

THE TOAST

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE HENRY

OF

PRUSSIA

May his visit to our Country cement more strongly the
ties of friendship now existing between the
Great Empire of Germany
and the
Great Republic of the United States of America.

By his courtly personality he has won the admiration
and esteem of all.

To the health, prosperity, and continued happiness of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE HENRY

OF

PRUSSIA

FOUNDERS' DAY

NOVEMBER 22, 1902

The Executive Branch of the Government has left Washington, and is now assembled in the Banquet Hall of The Union League of Philadelphia!

The honor is so great, so high, and of such an extraordinary character, that it is not confined to The Union League, but is an honor to the City of Philadelphia.

The scene in our Banquet Hall this evening recalls the memorable visit of our beloved McKinley, at Founders' Day Banquet in 1900—when we were honored by the President and his entire Cabinet, with the exception of the Secretary of War, Mr. Root, who was absent in Cuba.

It is my privilege this evening to welcome in your name—

The President of the United States,

The Governor of Pennsylvania,

The Members of the Cabinet,

The Representatives of the United States Senate and House,

The Governor-elect of Pennsylvania,

The Representative of our great Universities,

The Philadelphia Board of Education, and

The distinguished gentlemen actively engaged and recognized in the great affairs of the world.

To each, individually and collectively, The Union League extends a most cordial, a most sincere greeting.

I congratulate you, gentlemen, that you meet this evening under such brilliant auspices, surrounded by such a company of great and distinguished men.

It is a recognition that establishes beyond any question the National character of The Union League of Philadelphia.

Forty years ago, fifteen gentlemen—actuated by intense love for their country—met at the residence of one of their number to consider what should be done—what they could do—to aid in the preservation of the Government, whose life and existence was threatened.

An organization was effected under the name of The Union Club, which name was changed within a few weeks to The Union League of Philadelphia.

Quoting from our Chronicles recently published :

“The originating cause of The Union League, was dire National peril ; its inspiration, was pure and disinterested Patriotism ; its foundation stone, was devotion to the Union ; its founders and fortifiers, were true sons of the founders and upbuilders of the Nation.”

“Strong love of Country has been the secret of The Union League's success. Profound devotion to the National idea in things great and small, has ever been the bugle note of its triumphal march through struggle and gloom to the pedestal of honor.”

Of the nine surviving members who organized The Union League four are dining with us this evening.

The Union Club has always maintained its organization by meeting on the twenty-seventh day of December of each year.

At the Sixth Anniversary, it was stated as the wish of the Standing Committee—

“That the Annual Dinner should be continued until the last two remaining members shall sit down in solemn state and dine together. As for the Club itself, it needs no memorial to keep alive its remembrance,—that will go down to posterity in the most sacred of all history,—the traditions of the people.”

At the Annual Dinner next month, five gentlemen will be entitled to dine—four by right of original and continuous membership, and one as an Honorary member.

What a glorious change in our National condition of forty years ago, as compared with to-day!

Then—gloom—threatened disaster—and depression throughout our land.

To-day—peace—prosperity and happiness—a united and happy people—prosperous beyond measure—a Union of States forming the greatest Republic in the World—the greatest and most blessed the Almighty ever permitted man to create!

It is not my intention to make a speech, nor occupy one moment of time more than is necessary to introduce to you the distinguished gentlemen you will have the pleasure of hearing.

Called upon to assume the duties and responsibilities of his high office, under the most distressing circumstances, Theodore Roosevelt has impressed his personality upon the Nation to an extent scarcely, if ever, before equaled in so short a space of time.

A Patriot, as well as patriotic, the love for his country, and the desire to serve his country to the fullest extent of his ability and power, is recognized and fully acknowledged.

An American, imbued with the loftiest principles and ideas—a President, whose every fibre of his being expresses the most intense devotion to duty, commands our respect and admiration.

With absolute sincerity, we wish for the Administration of President Roosevelt every possible success, that it may prove a blessing to all the people of our land, and redound to his honor and the glory of our country.

May Peace, Prosperity, and Happiness reign throughout our Borders. This is our wish and our greeting to our President, whom we welcome to-night.

Fill your glasses, gentlemen, and rise—I give you the first toast of the evening—

The President of the United States.

UPON RETIRING FROM THE OFFICE OF
PRESIDENT

ANNUAL MEETING, DECEMBER EIGHTH

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWO

Gentlemen: Before this meeting adjourns, I ask your indulgence for one moment. I wish to express to you, and through you to every member of The Union League, my grateful acknowledgment and my sincere appreciation of the uniform courtesy and kind consideration which I have always received at your hands.

Whatever has been accomplished during the past four years has only been possible by the loyal support which you have always given to me, and in laying aside the responsibilities of this high office, I do so with the utmost gratitude for your uniform kindness and generous consideration.

Although my official connection is terminated, my interest in The Union League will never falter or for one moment grow less.

The Union League, as a united body, possesses an immense influence in our community. You have within you an inherent power which possibly you do not realize.

It is a power which, exercised for good, can create an influence in our community that cannot be withstood or gainsaid.

As long as you commit your affairs to the care and direction of gentlemen of such high character

as those you have honored by election to-night,
The Union League will not go far wrong.

Nothing could be more gratifying to me, or give me more sincere pleasure, than to have my friend, Mr. Stotesbury, elected as my successor.

I know you will give Mr. Stotesbury the same loyal support that you have always given to me, and I know that he will give you the very best that is in him, and do everything in his power to add honor and glory to this great organization.

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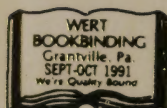
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